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Adults punched and girl's lip cut as family take walk in park



Princess Diana Park, where a family including a young girl were attacked and injured

TWO QUIZZED OVER ATTACK

TWO women are being investigated by police after a family, including an eight-year-old girl, were subjected to a 'vicious and unprovoked attack' in a park.

Police are still appealing for information following the shock attack at about 3.30pm on Thursday, March 30, at the entrance to Princess Diana Park near Orchard Fields Community School.

The family, a 39-year-old woman, a 27-year-old man and the girl, were approached from behind by two women who punched the adults, leaving them with bruises.

The woman was pulled to the floor by her hair and the little girl also received a cut lip in the incident.

Police said the pair also threatened the victims with 'serious harm' as they walked off in the direction of the car park.

Afterwards, the family were making their way through Bretch Hill when the pair drove past them, shouting further threats out the window.

Hannah Somerville

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Investigating officer PC Jonathan Livingston said: "This was a vicious and unprovoked attack and threats made to a family who were going for a walk in broad daylight."

"The incident happened at a busy time with parents picking up their children from school so it is possible that someone saw or heard the incident."

Two women, aged 24 and 23, were arrested on suspicion of assault and threats to kill. They have been released on police bail until April 16.

It comes within the same two-week bracket of reports of a rape in Horse Fair in the early hours of Sunday, following an investigation during which a 35-year-old man was arrested but later released without charge. Detectives have concluded the investigation.

Richard Pickering of Banbury Force CID said: "After an extensive investigation, we are no longer look-

ing for anyone in connection with the investigation. The woman who made the report has been provided with the appropriate support."

"Thames Valley Police will always take any report of sexual offences seriously and deal with those who report incidents to police sensitively."

"Anyone can report a sexual offence by calling police on 101 or 999 in an emergency."



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Consultation on NHS shake-up ends with barrage of criticism

MP hits out over lack of evidence to support the choices made by public

Hannah Somerville
hsomerville@nqo.com

TIME is up for members of the public to weigh in on plans that will change the face of the NHS in Oxfordshire forever.

Phase One of Oxfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group's (OCCG) consultation on 'transformation' closed at midnight on Sunday.

It follows a tumultuous three months of public events, fraught meetings and campaigns that saw criticism levelled at OCCG.

Banbury MP Victoria Prentis submitted her 30-page response on Thursday.

She said: "True consultation involves offering options on which the consultees can comment having seen the evidence they need to make informed choices. This is not the case here.

"Given its failings I still believe this consultation should never have started, or should have been stopped some time ago."

David Smith, chief executive of OCCG, thanked all those who took part and said the results would be



Members of Keep Our NHS Public make a final call against NHS 'transformation plans' at County Hall

considered by the board in May. He said: "Some of these proposals have generated very strong feelings, particularly in the Banbury area. "But this must be about making services across the whole county

the best they can be within the financial boundaries we have." The plans aim to address a predicted £134m black hole in the Oxfordshire NHS by 2020 as well as staff shortages.

Fears remain that not enough people understood what was at stake over the 12 weeks. Rosalind Pearce, chief executive of Healthwatch Oxfordshire, said: "Until the consultation is written

in a way that people can understand what it means, there is going to be distrust of it." Keith Strangwood of Keep the Horton General (KTHG) said campaigners had had to take it upon themselves to inform people. The group is supporting a consortium of local councils seek a judicial review over the consultation being split. Mr Strangwood said: "It was left to KTHG to let everyone know what's going on because OCCG haven't done a proper job. "What we want to happen is to get to a court hearing and then if necessary get an injunction to stop what they are doing." Dr Ken Williamson, chairman of the Keep Our NHS Public campaign, added people who could be affected by Phase Two were now 'frustrated and in limbo'. This week Oxfordshire County Council and the county's Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee both issued their final responses. Both groups raised a litany of concerns, including the split consultation and the sense that the outcome was a 'fait accompli'. All responses will be collated and meetings held between the CCG and stakeholders ahead of Phase Two, which will include changes to A&E, children's services and community hospitals as well as broad plans to reshape GP services.

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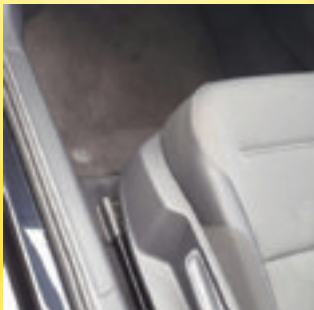
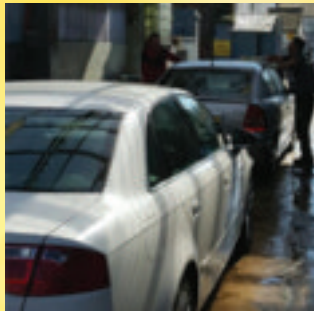
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Tale of human trafficking Bound to be a real eye-opener



Justice in Motion's Bound is coming to The Mill Arts Centre this month

AN ARRESTING drama and exploration of human trafficking is coming to The Mill Arts Centre courtesy of Oxford physical theatre company Justice in Motion.

The group's new work, Bound, is inspired by true accounts of being trafficked and follows three people's journeys into the unknown.

Using a mixture of physical theatre, dance, music, spoken word and film, the group creates a humorous and thought-

provoking experience. Bound is being shown at the venue in Spiceball Park on Thursday, April 20 as part of a wider tour taking in Oxford, Didcot and London.

Artistic director Anja Meinhardt said: "I had originally intended to create a piece about dreams, hopes and promises but soon found myself in this alien world instead, one which back then I knew little about."

"It could be a difficult subject so the

actors and I set about devising a drama that deals with the subject sensitively and in a realistic manner, yet light enough to keep our audience entertained and engaged. From the responses we get after the show I think we have achieved exactly that."

The performance runs from 10am to 11.30am.

Tickets cost £5. For more information visit tinyurl.com/lrj77m8.

Groups' call for manager

COMMUNITY groups in North Oxford who won cash to provide support services and free activities to families and children are looking for an enthusiastic person to manage them.

The job involves 16 hours of work a week and the deadline for applications is today.

Support for local families with children under five was previously provided at the North Oxford Children's Centre but funding was withdrawn by Oxfordshire County Council in March.

But the council has provided a one-off £30,000 grant to Cutteslowe Primary School and Cutteslowe Community Association, who have now joined forces to continue offering open-access activities.

The school will contribute £6,000 each year and further cash will be raised locally to pay for the co-ordinator to run stay and play sessions, a baby group, and possibly health visitor and midwife drop-ins, the partners said.

The co-ordinator will be helped by volunteers, who will run the sessions in the community centre, in Wren Road, and in the North Oxford Association pavilion in Cutteslowe Park.

The community centre is running a stay and play session every Thursday until the new provision is in place.

This will probably not be until the beginning of June, organisers added.

County councillor Jean Fooks said: "This is a really exciting opportunity. We have managed to get the money together to keep the centre running and we hope someone can help forward to help look after families in North Oxford."

For details about the job, or to apply, visit tinyurl.com/northoxfordcc.

A day to celebrate all our friendships

Spurred on by success of International Day, woman to hold event to boost relations

A CELEBRATION of the strong bonds between communities and individuals in Banbury is to take place for the first time this year.

The town's first ever Friendship Festival will take place on Sunday, May 21, featuring an all-day programme of walks and activities for people to enjoy.

It has been set up by a network of organisations in the town, including Banbury Quakers, the Banbury Interfaith Network and the Good Neighbour Fund.

In a joint statement creators said: "We are looking forward to seeing as many people as can make it to this event."

"It has been a joy to organise and would not have been possible without the support and help of the local community."

The event begins at 7.30am in Spice-

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ball Park with an 'almost dawn chorus' walk led by the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, followed by breakfast at Reg's Café.

Participants can also look forward to Banbury history walks, a bring-and-share lunch, cake sales and 'butterfly decorating' at 2pm in the Cornhill Centre.

There will also be live music throughout the day at the band stand in High Street and, at 3pm, a tour of Merton Street Mosque followed by a question and answer session with the Imam.

Judith Mason, the clerk for Banbury Evesham Quakers, came up with the idea for a friendship festival after the success of last year's Banbury Interna-

tional Day. She said: "My husband and I felt that anything that would bring the different communities together would be good."

"The dawn chorus appeals to me the most; we have this wonderful nature reserve and several around Banbury that people could use more."

"I have taken recently to bird-watching and would have loved to have known more about it when I was a child. Also visiting the mosque will be a highlight."

Plans for the festival are still being finalised and anyone musically talented who would like to appear on the bandstand is asked to call Sue on 01295 251780.

Volunteer marshals are also being sought to help get people from place to place. To help out or for more information call Mrs Mason on 01295 720900.

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Ecologist on hand to help

WILDLIFE groups in Oxfordshire have a new 'community ecologist' to help them with their work.

Wild Oxfordshire has employed Roselle Chapman on a two-year contract to assist with conservation efforts around the county.

The nature network said Dr Chapman would be looking to meet as many groups as possible to offer her assistance.

In a statement Wild Oxfordshire said: "Roselle is planning to get out and about to see all groups as soon as possible."

"She is aiming to gather a baseline of phase one surveys of all sites managed by volunteer groups – so we know who's managing what habitats. We know many groups have got more in-depth data whilst others have none – she is available to help as requested."

Dr Chapman, who developed her love of wildlife while growing up on a farm in Norfolk, said she was looking forward to the challenge.

The mum-of-two said: "I am very excited about Wild Oxfordshire's aspirations to build a better future for the county's wildlife by helping local communities to identify, protect and enhance a broad range of green spaces, whether this is part of a targeted initiative or during the creation of their neighbourhood plan."

"As community ecologist, my aim is to help community groups record and map their green space and to provide monitoring and management advice where needed."

To seek eco-assistance, email roselle@wildoxfordshire.org.uk.



One of the Manor F1 item for auction next month and (inset) a steering wheel is among the estimated 5,000 lots to go next month

A man in a white racing suit with a drawing of a car on it, standing in front of a white backdrop. The drawing is signed 'Sam age 7 1/2'.

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F1 team's assets go up for auction

Motorsport fans can buy car body parts plus rolling chassis

Hannah Somerville
hannah.somerville@nqo.com

A FORMER Formula 1 rolling chassis, pit lane equipment and a pair of wind tunnels are among the assets of the Manor F1 team to be sold off at auction to motor sport fanatics.

The Banbury-based team went into administration after failing to secure investment ahead of the 2017 season, which began with the Australian Grand Prix on March 26.

As a result, assets belonging to Manor Grand Prix Racing and Just Racing Services, the operating company of the F1 team, will be auctioned off over four days in May.

The online auction is expected to comprise of more than 4,000 lots and is being run by Gordon Brothers, a restructuring and investment firm.

Director Neal Weekes said: "This sale will appeal to anyone with an interest in motorsport."

"Subject to availability, we will have Formula 1 rolling chassis, a large quantity of pit lane equipment, two wind tunnel models



A wind tunnel model of the 2017 chassis that Manor would have used this year

and a plethora of car body parts and components including tubs, front and rear wings, engine covers and side pods, together with steering wheels and wheel rims.

"In addition, there is a significant selection of race- and team-branded clothing."

"The largest items in the sale are two pop-up road trailers the team used as their operations centre at every Grand Prix."

Among the items for sale is a wind tunnel model of the 2017 chassis that Manor would have used this season.

As well as motorsport-related items there will be engineering and inspection equipment, test rigs, office furniture, servers

and computers for sale.

The company has been instructed to run the auction by joint administrators FRP Advisory LLP and the directors of Manor GP.

All 212 staff members at the technical centre in Chalker Way were sent home on January 27 and made redundant.

Geoff Rowley, a partner of FRP Advisory, said it was 'deeply regrettable' the team had had to close its doors and thanked staff for their 'support and professionalism'.

The sale catalogue will be available in mid-April and can be viewed on manorflauction.com

Fire chief vows to tackle diversity issues in service

50 per cent of potential recruits are women but only 6.7 per cent become firefighters

Matt Oliver
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A DRIVE to make Oxfordshire Fire and Rescue Service more diverse has been made a top priority by the county's new fire chief.

Simon Furlong, who officially took over the role last week, says he wants to inspire more women and people from black, Asian or ethnic minority backgrounds to join the authority.

At the moment 93 per cent of firefighters are men and 97 per cent white. But Mr Furlong, a father of three daughters, said that was 'not good enough'.

He said: "We are slightly better than average in Oxfordshire and on par with London – but that is still pretty poor. If you take one example, 50 per cent of my potential recruits are women but only 6.7 per cent end up being firefighters."

"That needs to change. We should reflect the communities that we serve."

It comes after Home Office minister Brandon Lewis criticised fire services nationally for their 'woeful' lack of diversity, with a new watchdog set up to scrutinise performance.

In an exclusive interview with the *Oxford Mail* yesterday, Mr Furlong said diversity was an issue he would focus on during his time in charge.

But he does not favour using quotas



Simon Furlong, the new chief fire officer at Oxfordshire Fire and Rescue Service

for recruitment and has instead called for a major 'culture shift' to encourage people from all backgrounds to join.

He said: "I don't think targets are the right thing, personally, but I would love for 50 per cent of our firefighters to be women. That's what the community is, so why can't the fire service have that?"

"That's my aspiration, to represent the community we serve. I want to change culture, rather than just say we should do this to hit a target."

"With our 365Alive campaign, we started with numbers and figures but it was actually about saying to all our

staff 'we are changing direction and we are now thinking about safety, rather than just response' and that was a massive success."

"If I just set a target, someone else could come in after I'm gone and say 'I don't want that anymore'. But we should be taking ownership of this, because it's the right thing to do. We're going to work hard at it."

He added: "We don't always sell it enough, but there are so many career paths and opportunities in the fire service because of the range of things we do now."





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Candidates for county council elections have been revealed

18 elected members of authority have decided to stand aside this time

Matt Oliver
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CANDIDATES for the upcoming county council elections have been revealed.

The vote will be held for all 63 divisions of Oxfordshire County Council on May 4, with several long-serving councillors set to step down.

Overall, 18 elected members of the authority are standing aside from the Conservatives, Labour, the Liberal Democrats and the Green Party, it was confirmed yesterday.

Across the county, more than 220 candidates will be vying to win seats.

Yesterday Melinda Tilley, who represents Kingston & Cumnor, is one of those departing and said she had 'mixed feelings' about stepping down but was looking forward to spending more time with her five grandchildren.

The Conservative county councillor, 73, said: "I shan't miss all the hard work and stress, but I will miss the camaraderie of my colleagues."

"It is partly because I'm getting a bit older now and I don't think I can commit to another four years. But



Janet Godden

I will still be staying involved with the Junior Citizens Trust for another year, which I'm really pleased about.

"Being a councillor is a job where there have been some things that



John Christie

got me down and others that have been really good, but I am glad we managed to keep many children's centres open."

Labour's John Christie, who serves Banbury Ruscote was elected



Melinda Tilley

in 2013 and said he was stepping down due to family commitments.

The 66-year-old, a retired boss of social services in London, added: "It has been a good experience but I don't feel I'm able to give it the time

it deserves anymore.

"We've tried as an opposition to put forward things we felt were important and I was pleased to be able to bring my experience in local government to bear in committees."

North Hinksey's Liberal Democrat Janet Godden added: "It has been an interesting and very stimulating experience and I've enjoyed being involved in making strategic decisions."

"The work I have helped with in adoption and fostering was important and also very fulfilling. But after 24 years as a councillor, I thought it was about time to go."

Their decisions come before what is expected to be a hotly-contested campaign.

The county council's ruling Conservative administration is hoping to capitalise on an average national poll lead of 18 points under Theresa May's premiership, with the Liberal Democrats boosted by a string of recent successes in by-elections. They are hoping their anti-Brexit message will tap into Oxfordshire's strong support for the Remain campaign.

Labour, meanwhile, has pledged to make the case for a 'fairer Britain' amid warnings it could lose seats under Jeremy Corbyn's leadership.

For a list of nominations visit: mycouncil.oxfordshire.gov.uk/mgUserInfo.aspx?UID=7452

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Children create Easter bonnets

FLOWERS, chicks and Easter bunnies adorned the imaginative headgear on display at a Bretch Hill primary school.

Staff and students at William Morris Primary School modelled their Easter bonnets on the last week of term.

Real straw, egg-shaped accessories, chicks and bunnies were all involved in

the event, which culminated in a parade and competition.

Executive head teacher Julie Hiddleston said: "The winners were thoroughly deserving. We must thank everyone who worked so hard to create innovative, colourful bonnets."

An Easter Extravaganza was also held on Tuesday with pupils treated to a cake stall, raffle and tombola.



The winners of the Easter bonnet competition at William Morris Primary School

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Project helps young people build a future

Programme that aids teenagers to gain job skills

GETTING young people on their feet will be the name of the game for a Banbury charity taking part in two separate employability schemes.

The Banbury Young Homeless Project (BYHP) is among about 10 partner organisations involved in Unlocking Potential for Oxfordshire, a programme supporting teenagers aged 17 to 19 who have not been in employment, education or training for six months or more – known as NEETs – in Oxford and Banbury.

At the same time, it is working with education firm Activate Learning on its Back on Track scheme, which identifies and works with young

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people at risk of becoming NEET.

Tim Tarby-Donald, the CEO of BYHP, said: "Being in both of these projects is fantastic for us.

"We are in schools and focusing on the needs of young people who might end up coming into one of our projects."

Unlocking Potential will run until 2019, supported by £734,000 from the Big Lottery Fund and the European Social Fund.

It offers a programme of training and support to about 40 teenagers aged 17 to 19, including work experience and fun activities such as football and quad biking.

Mr Tarby-Donald said: "We want them to stay in education and if studying isn't right for them, to look at apprenticeships.

"We are also aware we

have to provide a safety net to young people who do fall out of the system."

Meanwhile BYHP is also inviting people with autism to get in touch about their experiences of barriers to work.

During research for Autism Awareness Week at the end of March members of the BYHP team found just 16 per cent of people with autism are in employment.

It has asked for personal accounts of difficulties getting into work from people with autism as well as working with the Parents Talking Asperger's group in Middleton Cheney.

Mr Tarby-Donald said: "Autism is obviously something we see in some of the young people we support but we as a team are quite inexperienced and have no specific project for it, so as an organisation we are trying to develop our expertise."



Students at Sibford sing their hearts out in aid of the Banbury Young Homelessness Project

Pupils sing out to raise funds

STUDENTS at a Banbury secondary school raised their voices in song to raise more than £880 for the Banbury Young Homelessness Project at St Mary's Church.

Earlier this month, young choristers from Sibford School were joined by singers from

Quaker schools in West Yorkshire, Essex and Northern England.

The Friends' Schools' Joint Choir Festival was held to mark 175 years since the Religious Society of Friends established the school.

On the night more than 100 young voices joined together to

perform Fauré's Requiem to a packed audience.

Toby Spence, head of Sibford School, said: "It was a fantastic evening."

Turn to page 8 for more news on what BYHP are doing to help young people in Banbury.

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SAVE £££'S THIS HOLIDAY WEEKEND



Pupils from Cutteslowe Primary School enjoy a hot lunch

Labour warned free meals are a waste of cash

Money could be spent improving other areas of schools

Luke Sproule
lsproule@nqo.com

GIVING free school meals to all children would be a waste of money that would be better spent elsewhere, the Labour Party has been warned.

Leader Jeremy Corbyn announced on Thursday that if the party wins the next election it will give all primary school pupils free school meals.

This would be funded by introducing a VAT tax on private schools.

But teachers and politicians in Oxfordshire said schools needed the money for more important aspects of school life.

Oxfordshire County Council education scrutiny committee deputy chairman and Labour councillor Gill Sanders said there were problems with the proposals.

Stressing that she was speaking in a personal capacity she said: "Giving free school meals to children who are deserving of a free school meal is effective and vital and something we should continue to do.

"But I do have concerns that we will be providing meals for parents who can well afford to pay.

"I would like any extra money to be spent to allow schools to pay for staff so that they can continue to offer certain subjects."

The Conservative-Lib Dem coalition government introduced free school meals for all children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2.

Free meals are provided for children in other years if their parents are given benefits such as jobseeker's allowance or earn less than £16,190 a year.

Lynn Knapp, headteacher of Windmill Primary School in Headington, said: "If money were no object this policy would be good but every penny counts at the moment.

"The money could be put into other areas of school. Not every child needs a free school meal."

When free meals for Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 children were introduced some schools claimed they had lost out on pupil premium funding.



Windmill Primary School headteacher

This money is given to schools based on how many disadvantaged pupils they had, but some headteachers said parents were not declaring their income anymore as they did not need to in order to get free meals.

This meant their children were not classed as disadvantaged and pupil premium money was not awarded.

Mrs Knapp said: "If this were rolled out to all pupils it could become more of an issue and cost us money."

In the run-up to the 2015 General Election the Lib Dems proposed offering all primary school pupils free meals.

Lib Dem councillor and education scrutiny committee member Professor John Howson accused Labour of stealing the policy.

He said: "We are in favour of it, it would be a relief, particularly for the just about managing.

"But I am not in favour of funding it through VAT on independent school places.

"The Lib Dems would fund it through general taxation."



JUST A SAMPLE OF WHAT'S ON OFFER IN STORE...

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AURORA LAMP TABLE WITH SHELF IN LAQUERED OAK WAS £439 NOW £99	HIMOLLA "SINATRA" LARGE EASY CHAIR WITH 2 MOTOR RISE/RECLINE FUNCTION IN HIGH GRADE LEATHER WAS £3008 NOW £1499	PLUS ALL RUGS, MIRRORS, PICTURES, LAMPS, AND ACCESSORIES PRICED TO CLEAR!



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Past and present collide

THE SENSE OF AN ENDING (15)

Drama/Romance. Jim Broadbent, Charlotte Rampling, Harriet Walter, Michelle Dockery, Emily Mortimer, James Wilby, Billy Howle, Freya Mavor, Joe Alwyn. Director: Ritesh Batra.

WE are all unreliable narrators of the past.

At the mercy of our vanity, we repeatedly embellish small triumphs until they become glittering false memories and ruthlessly edit down humiliating failures to tolerable footnotes in our personal history.

Elegantly adapted from Julian Barnes' 2011 Booker Prize-winning novel by award-winning British playwright Nick Payne, *The Sense Of An Ending* is a delicately calibrated drama about a retired father, whose cosy suburban bubble is burst by evidence of a misdeed from his university days.

The past catches up with us all eventually.

In director Ritesh Batra's elegiac film, this ticking time bomb detonates with devastating force, driving a quietly spoken, unassuming man to stalk an old flame he wronged 50 years earlier.

The narrative oscillates between the two timeframes, piecing together fragmented details into a mosaic of regret and atonement.

Oscar winner Jim Broadbent is the film's emotional core, delivering a subtle, nuanced performance that radiates calm when events around him seem to be spiralling out of control.

He meticulously exposes chinks in his character's brittle armour.

When he plaintively informs his ex-wife (Harriet Walter), "I'm not an entirely redundant member of this family yet", his sadness and self-pity are palpable.

Anthony Webster (Broadbent) spends lazy days behind the

counter of his vintage camera shop and long lunch breaks with ex-wife Margaret (Walter), with whom he is on amicable terms.

Their daughter Susie (Michelle Dockery) is heavily pregnant and Anthony attends antenatal classes in place of her partner.

Out of the blue, he receives a letter from a solicitor to inform him that Sarah Ford (Emily Mortimer), mother of his one-time girlfriend Veronica (Charlotte Rampling), has left him a treasure in her will.

The bequest turns out to be the diary of his school chum Adrian Finn (Joe Alwyn), who committed suicide at university after he became one point of a messy love triangle with Anthony and Veronica.

Reluctantly, Anthony harks back to his adolescence when he fell head over heels for the young Veronica (Freya Mavor) and holidayed with her family.

"You can pee into the basin at night if you wish," jokes Veronica's father David (James Wilby), showing young Anthony (Billy Howle) around his room. Frustrated by Veronica's cool detachment and her reluctance to commit, Anthony yearns for reassurance.

"Does it have to head somewhere, our relationship?" responds Veronica, sowing the seeds of jealousy and rejection that will sprout bitter, poisonous fruit.

The Sense Of An Ending is constructed on the solid foundation of Barnes' novel.

The steady tick tock of time heals most wounds, but selective reminiscence is a wonderful balm.

RATING: 7/10

THE HANDMAIDEN (18)

Celebrated South Korean director Park Chan-wook draws inspiration from Sarah Waters' bestselling novel *Fingersmith* for this visually sumptuous, erotically charged thriller set against the turbulent backdrop of the Japanese occupation of



Pictured: Freya Mavor as Young Veronica Ford and Billy Howle as Young Tony Webster in *The Sense Of An Ending*

1930s Korea. Pickpocket Sook-Hee (Kim Tae-ri) has been raised as a thief since birth. She is hired by wily con artist Fujiwara (Ha Jung-woo), who has set his sights on the vast fortune of reclusive heiress Lady Izumi Hideko (Kim Min-hee). She lives in a mansion, where her movements are closely monitored by her uncle Kouzuki (Cho Jin-woong). Fujiwara poses as a Japanese Count and Sook-Hee gains a position as a young handmaiden in Lady Hideko's household. Sook-Hee uses her wiles to worm her way into her mistress' affections with the intention of carrying out Fujiwara's despicable scheme.

Cake Bookworm

In *Extremis* by Tim Park is published in hardback by Harvill Secker, priced £16.99 (ebook £9.99).

Linguistics professor Thomas Saunders is on his way home to try and see his mum on her deathbed. The problem is, he just has so much else on his mind... He's supposed to be giving the keynote speech at a big conference in Berlin. His best friend's just been assaulted by his own son. He's anxious about his girlfriend back in Spain, partly because she's half his age and partly because he still hasn't told his family that he left his wife for her two years ago. Oh, and he's just triggered an onset of the chronic pelvic-floor pain that has been plaguing him for years... by self-administering a therapeutic anal massage with a special contraption that is raising all sorts of eyebrows at airport security. The novel follows the meanderings and vacillations of Thomas' mind as he navigates these and a hundred other related

issues. There are texts and emails to respond to, family members to negotiate, a funeral to survive, and painful memories to contend with. Perhaps he shouldn't have left his wife? What was the meaning of his mother's last enigmatic words to him - 'If only...'? And - reflecting on the unquestioning religiosity of his lay preacher mum and vicar dad (also dead) - how do you square your grief for the loss of your parents with an equally heartfelt rejection of all that they believed in? In *Extremis* is by turns funny, poignant and thought-provoking. Structured with subtle intricacy, this is a book to love.

9/10

In *The Name Of The Family* by Sarah Dunant is published in hardback by Virago, priced £16.99 (ebook £8.99). It's 1502 and Niccolò Machiavelli is called to one of the most exciting diplomatic tasks of his career.

Sarah Dunant vividly brings these encounters alive, which go on to be major influences on his treatise on statesmanship, *The Prince*. However, the historical novel *In The Name Of The Family* is mainly the tale of the extraordinary Borgia family. Pope Alexander, the venal and corrupt head of the family, ruthlessly promotes the interests of his illegitimate children. Cesare, the cruel but brilliant military commander son, conquers the Italian city states through force and guile (and impressing Machiavelli with such feats), while his sister Lucrezia aims to restore the family name and fortune through diplomacy and charm. The story takes us through their audacious power grab - will this usurper Spanish family prevail in creating their lasting dynasty? Dunant takes the dramatic historical ledger and blends great narrative to create an immersive read of Renaissance Italy.

8/10

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Oxfordshire Listings

Events

THURSDAY

Charlton Spring Festival: The Charlton Centre, Charlton Village Road, Wantage. Children's crafts, live music, cream teas, cakes and treats. Also, plants for sale, a bouncy castle, the East Egg Trail and more. Money raised will go towards the Wantage Market Garden Project. 11am. £1 for adults, children free. 07527 201559.

Glee Club UK Adult Community Choir: Wantage CE Primary School, Newbury Street, Wantage. Learn Glee Club UK versions of rock and pop songs. 7.30pm. Free first session then £18.50 a month. 07900 210969.

Grove RFC Girls' Rugby: Grove RFC, Recreation Lane, Grove. Contact rugby union for girls aged 11-18 in three age groups. 7pm. Annual membership £85 after three free sessions. 07970292322.

Little Explorers: Earth Trust Centre, Little Wittenham. Buggies and slings welcome for a ramble around the nature reserve. 10am. £4 suggested donation per child. 01865 407792.

Mummers, Maypoles and Milkmaids Family Activity Days: Museum of Oxford, Oxford Town Hall, St Aldates, Oxford. Visit the temporary exhibition about English customs and traditions throughout the year. Make your own Green Man mask or Morris Man's hat. Find out more about local traditions surrounding the celebration of May Day in Oxford. 10.30am. Free. 01865 252334.

FRIDAY

Easter Specials at Chinnor & Princes Risborough Railway: Chinnor & Princes Risborough Railway, Station Approach, Station Road, Chinnor. Easter train ride and meet the Easter Bunny. Complimentary hot drinks and hot cross buns for adults and squashes and chocolate treats for children served by volunteers at your seat. Trains at 11am (steam), 12.15pm (vintage diesel), 1.30pm (steam), 3pm (steam) and 4.30pm (steam). Adult £11, senior £10, child £6. 07979 055366.

Witney Bytomic Taekwondo Classes: Wood Green School, Woodstock Road, Witney. 7pm. Monthly fees apply. 01844 281888.

SATURDAY

Easter Egg Hunt: The Nightingale, Nightingale Place, Langford Village, Bicester. 1pm. £1.50 per child.

Eggstraordinary Easter Eggventure: Pitt Rivers Museum, South Parks Road, Oxford. Egg-hunters trail. 10am. Free. 01865 270927.

Once Upon a Time... Come Listen to a Story #1: Braziers Lane, Ipsden. Listen by the fire and take home one of the great stories of Regeneration. 7.30pm. £5, includes cocoa and a biscuit. Under 10s free. 01491 680221.

Spring Herbal Medicine & Foraging Day #1: Braziers Park, Braziers Lane, Ipsden. This is the first of three plant study and foraging days this year. Walk the grounds and see what life is springing around us and spend part of the morning and afternoon doing an in-depth study with one seasonal plant. Gather knowledge of plant medicine at this time of year, seasonal cycles and observe our sensory connections with our plant friends. Make one preparation with each plant to take home at the end of the day. 10am-5.30pm. £60. 01491 680221.

SUNDAY

Bytomic Taekwondo Classes: Brookside Primary School, Bucknell Road, Bicester. 5pm. 01844 281 888.

National Garden Scheme: Waterperry Gardens, Waterperry. Eight acres of

landscaped gardens including rose and formal knot garden, water lily canal, riverside walk and one of the country's finest herbaceous borders. There is a plant centre, garden shop, teashop, art gallery, museum and Saxon church. National Collection of Kabscia and Silver Saxifrages. Fritillaries looking fantastic for April opening. Wheelchair access. Plant sale. Coaches welcome by appt. Home-made teas. 10am. Adult: £7.50, chd free. 01844 339226.

Storytelling Workshop #1: Braziers Park, Braziers Lane, Ipsden. 10am. £60. 01491 680221.

The Thame Country Fair: Thame Showground, Kingsley Road, Thame. Entertainment, country sports, arena attractions and demonstrations, shopping and the 'Food Glorious Food' feature. 10am. Adults £13, over 65s £12, children £4. 01283 820548.

MONDAY

Easter Holidays at Cogges: Cogges Manor Farm, Church Lane, Witney. Activities include storytelling, craft and cooking. 10am. Free to season ticket holders/standard admission. 01993 772602.

Masons Apron Northwest Morris: Recreation Hall, Main Street, Long Hanborough. Masons Apron Ladies Northwest Morris. 8.15pm. £5 annual fee plus £2 per week. 01993 200717.

Women's Self Defence and Fitness Class: The Pavilion, Roosevelt Road, Long Hanborough. Ages from 13 upwards welcome. 8pm. £5. 07834 022463.

Yoga Class: The Clifton Centre, Ashdene Road, Bicester. 9.30am. 07917 453224.

TUESDAY

Children's Workshop – Be a Zoologist for the Day: Sutton Courtenay Environmental Education Centre, Sutton Courtenay Road, Abingdon. Get close up to minibeasts with microscopes and magnifying glasses. Pond dip, bird watching, sweep net in our meadow and use a dissecting kit to find out who our Barn owls have been eating. Bring picnic lunch. This workshop is for children aged seven and up only. Children must be accompanied at all times during the workshop. 10am. £10. 01235 862024.

New Pilates Classes (one chair-based): Drayton Village Hall, Lockway, Drayton. 9.30am. 07702 727971.

Night Safari: Earth Trust Centre, Little Wittenham. Discover Wallingford Castle Meadow's wildlife by night and set up live traps ready for tomorrow's event. 7.30pm. Free. 01865 407792.

Yoga Class: The Clifton Centre, Ashdene Road, Bicester. 6.15pm. 07917 453224.

WEDNESDAY

Grove RFC Ladies Rugby: Grove RFC, Recreation Lane, Grove. 7pm. Annual membership £70 after three free sessions. 07970 292322.

Oxford SciBar – It's Tough Being a Human: St Aldates Tavern (The Blue Room), St Aldate's Street, Professor Sue Llewelyn explains how clinical psychologists use evidence from psychology, and from people's own experiences, to work with a range of difficulties like depression, anxiety and post-traumatic stress. 7pm. Free.

The Role of Women in Tackling Violence and Extremism in Pakistan: Quaker Meeting House, 43 St Giles Street, Oxford. Gulalai was just 16 when she co-founded local organisation, Aware Girls, in Pakistan. Based in Peshawar, north-west Pakistan, Aware Girls has grown into an internationally renowned organisation that has empowered and inspired hundreds of youth in Pakistan. Nobel peace prize

To get an event of any kind listed here, enter the details into our easy-to-use online database at thisisoxfordshire.co.uk/events

Please add your event no later than ten days before the day of publication.

winner, Malala Yousafzai, was among one of the earliest members. 5pm. Free. 020 3422 5549.

The Surreal World of Rene Magritte: Trinity Church, Conduit Road, Abingdon. Abingdon Decorative and Fine Arts Society (ADFAS) monthly lecture from Sarah Kelly on The Real World of Rene Magritte. Non-Members £6 including coffee/tea. 2pm. 01235 523370.

Wildlife Wednesday at Wallingford Castle Meadows: Earth Trust Centre, Little Wittenham. Roving Wildlife Wednesday visits a different Earth Trust community nature reserve each school holiday. 10am. Free. 01865 407792.

Witney Bytomic Taekwondo Classes: Wood Green School, Woodstock Road, Witney. 7pm. Monthly fees apply. 01844 281888.

Woodland Adventure: Earth Trust Centre, Little Wittenham. An expedition for 5-8 year olds. Use your detective skills to explore, build and play in the woods. 10am. £4 suggested donation per child. 01865 407792.

Music

THURSDAY

The Wheatsheaf, 129 High Street, Oxford: Huw Warren's Quartet Brasil. The Spin Jazz Club. Latin jazz. 8.30pm. £12, £10 (concs), £8 (students).

The Cellar, Frewin Court, Oxford: King Terribles Disco. Indie, rock, 80s. 11pm-3am. Free.

The Bullingdon, 162 Cowley Road, Oxford: Stolby, Chalk, Rose Segal, Juniper Nights. Folk/rock. 7pm.

Joe's Bar & Grill, 260 Banbury Road, Oxford: Gyps'N' Progress. Gypsy jazz trio. 9pm. Free.

FRIDAY

Berinsfield SC, Green Furlong, Berinsfield: Marley Motown. 9pm. 07770 899859.

Dorchester Abbey, High Street, Dorchester on Thames: Bach St John Passion at Dorchester Abbey. OSJ Voices and Orchestra of St John's. £24/20/12. 6pm. 07775 904626.

Duke Of Monmouth, Abingdon Road, Oxford: Jamie Felton. Vocal guitarist. Free. 8.30pm. 01865 240294.

Lord Nelson, Charlton Road, Wantage: Ann Marie. Covers vocalist. Free. 9pm. 01235 763415.

St Giles Church, St Giles, Oxford: Mozart Requiem 'Bring and Sing'. Rehearsal for singers 4.30-6.15pm. Performance 7pm. £10 score hire. 01865 510460.

The Beacon, Portway, Wantage: The Zoots. Sounds of The Sixties Show £14. 7pm. 01235 763456.

Victoria Arms, Mill Lane, Marston: Pete McCray. Soul and reggae. Free. 8.30pm. 01865 241382.

The Bullingdon, 162 Cowley Road, Oxford: The Balkan Wanderers, The Shapes, Genevieve Miles. 7pm. £5 (adv), £8 (otd).

The Cellar, Frewin Court, Oxford: Happyness. Alt-rock trio. 7pm. £9 (adv), motd.

The Jericho Tavern, 56 Walton Street, Oxford: Harry & The Gondolas, My Crooked Teeth. Folk rock. 7pm. £4 (adv).

O2 Academy Oxford, 190 Cowley Road, Oxford: Self Help, Easter Island Statues, Ash Lewis, The Shades. Garage-

rock and punk-pop. 7pm. £8.

The Wheatsheaf, 129 High Street, Oxford: Storyteller, Country For Old Men, Mad Larry. Reggae-funk. 7pm. £7.

SATURDAY

Cricketers, Temple Road, Cowley: Darren Hunt. Free. 9pm. 01865 718459.

Marston Royal British Legion, Hadow Road, Marston: Texas Ghost Train. Free. 8pm. 01865 243991.

Royal Standard, London Road, Headington: Jamie Felton. Free. 8.30pm. 01865 764591.

SJE Arts, 109a Iffley Road, Oxford: Bach St John Passion. OSJ Ashmolean Voices and Orchestra of St John's. £24/20/12. 7.30pm. 07775 904626.

The Windrush Club, 106 High Street, Witney: Key Liaison. 9pm. 07950 280357.

Tiddy Hall, Shipton Road, Ascott-Under-Wychwood: Chris Leslie plus support from Ian Brown. Wychwood Folk Club. £10 in advance, £12 on the door. 8pm. 01993 831427.

The Jericho Tavern, 56 Walton Street, Oxford: Birdeatsbaby, Callow Saints and Brosephine. Female-fronted rock bands. 7.30pm. £5 adv, £8 on the door.

The Wheatsheaf, 129 High Street, Oxford: The Kut, JOANovARC, Idestroy, Haxan. Rock/metal. 7.45pm. £8 (adv), £10 (otd).

O2 Academy Oxford, 190 Cowley Road, Oxford: Last Rites, Echo4Four, Crystallite, Rats Eat Rats. Hard rock and heavy metal. 7pm. £8.

The Cellar, Frewin Court, Oxford: Trudy & The Romance. Retro-pop. 7pm. £6 (adv).

SUNDAY

Bicester Services Club, Sheep Street, Bicester: Jamie Felton. Young vocal guitarist. Free. 5pm. 01869 245367.

Oxford Wine Café, 38 South Parade, Summertown: Mathew Read Trio. Guitar, bass and drums. Jazz. 6.30-9pm. Free.

Rose And Crown, 14 North Parade Avenue, Oxford: Just Friends. Jazz. 7pm. Free.

The Bullingdon, 162 Cowley Road, Oxford: Laid Blak, Don Letts, Sweet Memory Sounds. Reggae 10pm-4am. £10.

St Aldate's Tavern, 108 St Aldate's, Oxford: Lois French, Charlotte Lloyd Butler, Ronnie Cook. Indie-jazz, blues and soul. 8.30pm.

MONDAY

Rose Revived, Newbridge, Oxford: Alvin Roy's Reeds Unlimited. Jazz. 7.30-10pm. Free.

The Harcourt Arms, Cranham Terrace, Jericho: Oxford Classic Jazz Trio. 8-10.30pm. Free but £5 suggested contribution.

TUESDAY

The Old Fire Station, 40 George Street, Oxford: Oxford Improvisers. An evening of new and improvised music. £9, £6. 7.45pm. 01865 263990.

New Theatre, 2 George Street, Oxford: Billy Ocean. 7pm. £26.65-£50.15.

The Bullingdon, 162 Cowley Road, Oxford: Laurence Jones. Haven Club. Blues. 8pm. £12 (adv), £15 (otd), £5 (student).

WEDNESDAY

The Bullingdon, 162 Cowley Road, Oxford: The Moonlandingz. 7.30pm. £12.

The Wheatsheaf, 129 High Street, Oxford: Vodun, Masiro, 1000 Chains, Crimson Tusk. Metal/hard rock. 8pm. £6 (adv).

Theatre

The Bullingdon, 162 Cowley Road, Oxford: Apr 15, Mark Olver, John Gordillo and Liz Miele. Glee comedy. 7.45pm. £15.95. Apr 22, Laura Lexx, Nick Dixon, Tom Wigglesworth and Lost Voice Guy. Glee comedy. 7.45pm. £15.95. Apr 29, Keith Farnan, Jim Smallman, Paul Thorne and Jenny Collier. 7.45pm. £15.95. 01865 810000.

The Old Fire Station, 40 George Street, Oxford: Apr 13-15, *Tamburlaine*. All-women company. 7.30pm. £12, £10. Apr 25, *Human Story Theatre Scenes From...* Human Story Theatre focuses on new writing with a health and social care issue at heart. Hear extracts from two new plays by local playwrights, Zena Forster (*The Last Dog*) and Nick O'Dwyer (*Roof*). 7.30pm Book a ticket, and pay what you can. 01865 263990.

Oxford Playhouse, Beaumont Street, Oxford: Until Apr 15, *Fantastic Mr Fox*. Various times. £12-£23.50. Apr 12-23, 15, 19-23, *How to Hide a Lion*. Ages three to six. Various times. £8 (£6). Apr 18-22, *Pygmalion*. 7.30pm. £11.50-£28. Apr 26-29, *Hot Mikado*. Oxfordshire Youth Music Theatre. 7.30pm. £11.50-£21. May 3-6, *Little Shop of Horrors*. 7.30pm. £11.50-£19. 01865 305305.

New Theatre, George Street, Oxford: Apr 21-22, *The First Hippo on the Moon*. Fri 2pm and 11am, Sat 2pm. For ages three and up. Tickets £15.40-£23.90 plus £4 transaction fee. Apr 28-29, *My First Ballet: Cinderella*. Various times. Tickets £13.40-£29.40 plus £4 transaction fee. 0844 871 7615.

The North Wall Arts Centre, South Parade, Summertown: Apr 20, *Offside*. Play about women's football. 8pm. £14. May 3, *Give Me Your Love*. 8pm. £14/£12. 01865 319450.

Wig & Pen, 9-13 George Street, Oxford: Apr 13, Youngblood Comedy. New stand-up talent from around the UK. With Chris Norton Walker, Matt Bragg and Jonathan O'Neill. 8pm. £7 adult, £5 student.

Amey Theatre, Park Road, Abingdon: Apr 18-22, *Annie*. Abingdon Operatic Society. 7.30pm. Apr 26, RSC Live: *Julius Caesar*. 7pm. £12/£10. 01235 849063.

Chipping Norton Theatre, Spring Street, Chipping Norton: Apr 18, *Monday's Child*. Suitable for ages four plus. 3pm. £8.50. Apr 22, *Tweedy's Lost Property*. 2pm and 6pm. Tweedy, the star of Gifford's Circus, presents a comedy about a clown who gives in to society and gets a real job. Adults £13, concessions £11. 01608 642350.

Cornerstone Arts Centre, Station Road, Didcot: Apr 13, *Tweedy's Lost Property*. Children and family theatre. 11ma and 2pm. £8. Apr 20-22, *Made in Dagenham*. 7.45pm. £14. 01235 515144.

The Beacon, Portway, Wantage: Apr 20, NT Live: *Rosencrantz & Guildenstern Are Dead*. 7pm. £15. 01235 763456.

The Kings Arms Hotel, 40 Market Square, Bicester: Apr 13, *Fawley Towers* Themed Comedy Dining Evening. Ticket includes three-course dinner. £39. 07884 201840.

Unicorn Theatre, Thames Street, Abingdon: Apr 26-29, *The Duchess of Malfi*. 7.30pm. £10 (£9 conc). 01865 425687.

Puritans stay in play-off chase

GOALS from Luke Carnell and Manny Duku gave Banbury United a hard-earned 2-1 victory away to basement club Cinderford Town to keep their play-off hopes alive.

With just three Evo-Stik Southern League Premier Division games remaining, the Puritans are one point behind the top five.

Banbury boss Mike Ford had to make do without George Nash (ill), but there was a place in the starting line-up for the returning Tom Winters, with Eddie Odhia-mbo replacing the injured Calum White.

The Puritans made the breakthrough on 15 minutes.

Winters's corner was cleared back to him, and he crossed for

Carnell to head home from 15 yards

Banbury always looked dangerous going forward and Jack Self hit a post before the break.

In the first minute of the second half Cinderford went close to equalising when Nick Harrhy's shot struck the woodwork.

However, Banbury doubled their lead in the 79th minute as Duku fired into the top corner.

A late Craig Norman goal set up a tense finish, but the Puritans held on.

Banbury Utd: Harding, Odhiambo, Bradbury, Martin, Westbrook, Carnell, McEachran (Browne 82), Self, Johnson, McDonagh (Duku 57), Winters (Blackstock 73). Subs not used: Bell, Keranovic.
Attendance: 175

EVO-STIK SOUTHERN LEAGUE									
Premier Division									
	P	W	D	L	A	F	A	Pts	
Chippenharn Tn	43	29	10	4	90	45	95	97	
Leamington	43	26	11	6	73	26	89		
Hitchin Tn	43	24	11	8	76	42	83		
Slough Tn	43	25	5	12	82	52	83		
Merthyr Tn	42	22	14	7	85	80	82		
Banbury Utd	43	24	7	12	65	36	79		
Frome Tn	42	20	13	10	78	61	73		
Kettering Tn	43	20	9	14	74	61	69		
Biggleswade	43	20	10	14	78	57	67		
Bedham Tn	43	18	9	16	75	57	63		
Weymouth	43	14	18	11	73	55	60		
Basingstoke	43	17	6	20	60	70	57		
King's Lynn	43	13	17	13	56	56	55		
St Ives Tn	43	14	11	18	47	66	53		
Stratford Tn	43	12	16	15	58	62	52		
Dunstable Tn	43	16	6	22	44	61	48		
Bedham Tn	43	13	11	21	51	57	43		
Dorchester Tn	43	12	10	21	50	77	46		
St Neots Tn	43	12	6	25	62	57	42		
Kings Langley	43	9	13	21	52	94	40		
Hayes & Yeading	43	9	11	23	46	75	38		
Cambridge C	42	9	10	23	41	72	37		
Gerrards Tn	43	9	5	25	49	99	36		
Cinderford Tn	42	7	3	32	47	99	24		



OPENER: Luke Carnell headed Banbury United into the lead against Cinderford

Bulls' poor run of form continues

BANBURY's season continues to peter out as their winless run stretched to three games in South West 1 East.

The Bulls, who bid to win the Oxfordshire Cup for a second successive year when they take on Oxford University Greyhounds at Iffley Road tonight, lost 36-7 at Windsor.

Jacob Mills scored Banbury's sole try, which was converted by Ed Phillips, but they were already 26 points in arrears.

	LATEST TABLE					
	SOUTH WEST			EAST		
	P	W	D	F	A	Pts
Maidenhead	25	21	0	4	892	434
Newbury Bl	25	20	1	4	834	382
O Pateians	25	20	0	5	894	391
Witney	25	13	0	12	531	629
O Centrals	25	12	0	11	630	612
Banbury	25	11	2	12	519	616
W Bassett	25	11	0	14	529	512
Swindon	25	10	1	14	520	566
Grove	25	10	1	14	467	595
Ox Quirns	25	11	1	13	480	668
Chippingham	25	9	0	16	585	710
Windsor	25	9	1	15	491	652
Reading Ab	25	10	1	14	452	525
Reading	25	3	0	22	287	655

Reader Offer

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with Claire Petulengro

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ARIES

Mar 21-Apr 19

The mist begins to clear and you start to see what and who was making you unhappy. In fact, the majority of your rams will be putting into place new and improved plans to make your life a better place to be. Be nice to older family members who may well be going through more stress than you're aware of. Ring now to hear how 2017 is the year to make your love life all you desire.

0906 585 4360




TAURUS

Apr 20-May 20

There is a really celebratory feel to your chart which can see you making up for the slow start to the year I see you've had to endure. Family are placing unfair pressures on you, but use the voice the stars hand you on Wednesday to say what you will and won't tolerate or find acceptable. It can put you firmly back in the driving seat. Ring now to hear how you're more psychic this month.

0906 585 4361



GEMINI

May 21-Jun 20

You think there is only one solution to the problem you are facing, but you're wrong. As you work your way through this week, you realise you have to think outside the box. You also find friends in those you do not know before but who, by the end of this month, will become firm friends of life. Ring now to hear why it's worth meeting those you do business with in the middle this month.

0906 585 4362



CANCER

Jun 21-Jul 22

You begin to see a new face from a different angle and their actions on the coming days will dictate whether they stay in your life. You're so much stronger than you were at the beginning of this year and close ones may even mention this to you. Focus on what you want and you'll discover you can move mountains. Ring now to hear how instant distance travel is beckoning.

0906 585 4363



LEO

Jul 23-Aug 22

Your ruling planet the Sun brings out your naughty side and you may think of doing things you would usually go out of your way to avoid. Careful what you say when learning about news of pregnancies or births. It could risk an important relationship if you don't watch your manners. Ring now to hear why you shouldn't rule out going back into further education in 2017.

0906 585 4364




VIRGO

Aug 23-Sep 22

A tense atmosphere in your house of family could have seen you saying things which you regret, and which you are unable to take back. Don't rule out the possibility of making an apology, it could be the olive branch to a better relationship for you and a close one. Financial discussions can end in your favour on Friday if you take control. Ring now so we can talk love and relationships.

0906 585 4365



LIBRA

Sep 23-Oct 22

Try not to second guess the next move of those you deal with in business, or you could end up looking and feeling the fool. Ensure you complete everything you have promised and don't put your personal life before your professional life on Wednesday or Friday. You could lose out on making an important crossover otherwise. Ring now to hear why this is a great month for selling and buying.

0906 585 4366



SCORPIO

Oct 23-Nov 21

The past comes to mind with things you do and people you see. Try to resist getting in contact with those you distanced yourself from for a very good reason. You'll regret impulsive actions, so sleep on any important decisions. This is a really good week to kick bad habits and to look for a more fulfilling and rewarding way of life. Ring now to hear why I'm so excited about your future.

0906 585 4367



SAGITTARIUS

Nov 22-Dec 21

I know you have not been feeling as strong as you should, but that's because you've been taking on more than usual. Try to make some time to sit down and work out a better day to day schedule for yourself. Not only will you feel better, you'll also gain the respect of those close to you. Give me a ring now to hear which signs can give you the breaks you need in business.

0906 585 4368



CAPRICORN

Dec 22-Jan 19

Your element of earth is making it hard for you to get used to the 'ch' which others are pushing on you. Remember to be a little more of a determined sign so you can do anything you set your mind to. Don't be ruled. Ask for the equality you know you deserve. More equal relationships will evolve in your life if you do my friend. Ring now to hear how instant attractions are worth acting upon.

0906 585 4369



AQUARIUS

Jan 20-Feb 18

Try to listen to what your close ones are asking of you. There is a really stubborn streak evolving in you this week, which could see you digging your heels in unnecessarily. Know how far is too far to go when pushing for changes you may not even want by the time this month comes to a close. Ring now to hear why it's worth rechecking all forms you've filled in.

0906 585 4370



PISCES

Feb 19-Mar 20

This is a far more restless Pisces I write to than the uptight one of last week. That's because you're taking a more realistic view of how things are. You don't even think about taking on things you know will give you stress or worry. Contact from someone linked to your past stirred mixed emotions within you. Ring now to hear who I think is blurring your usual good judgement.

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1

ARTICLES
FOR SALE

2

PETS

3

SERVICES

4

BUSINESS

5

ENTERTAINMENTS

6

HOLIDAYS

7

EDUCATION

8

PUBLIC
NOTICES

9

RECRUITMENT

10

MOTORS

11

PROPERTY

1

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3

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8 PUBLIC NOTICES

Announcements - Public Notices

IN LIQUIDATION
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
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 Registered Address: 100 St James Road, Northampton, NN5 5LF. Trading Address: Antelope Garage, Swan Close Road, Banbury, Oxfordshire, OX16 5AQ. Business: Car Garage. Final Date for Submission: 5 May 2017. Notice is hereby given, pursuant to Rule 4.182A of the Insolvency Rules 1986, that the joint liquidators of the Company named above (in members' voluntary liquidation) intend to make final distributions to creditors. Creditors are required to prove their debts on or before the final date for submission specified in this notice by sending full details of their claims to the joint liquidators. Creditors must also, if so requested by the joint liquidators, provide such further details and documentary evidence to support their claims as the joint liquidators deem necessary. The intended distributions are final distributions and may be made without regard to any claims not proved by the final date for submission specified in this notice. Any creditor who has not proved his debt by that date, or who increases the claim in his proof after that date, will not be entitled to disturb the intended final distributions. The joint liquidators intend that, after paying or providing for final distributions in respect of creditors who have proved their claims, all funds remaining in the joint liquidators' hands following the final distributions to creditors shall be distributed to the shareholders of the Company absolutely. The Company is able to pay all known liabilities in full. Date of Appointment: 28 March 2017. Joint Liquidator: John William Rimmer of BRI Business Recovery & Insolvency, Unit A, Kings Chambers, Queens Road, Coventry, CV1 3EH. Tel: 024 76226839 and Peter John Windatt of BRI Business Recovery & Insolvency, Unit A, Kings Chambers, Queens Road, Coventry, CV1 3EH. Contact: Dan Smith. Email: dsmith@briuk.co.uk. Tel: 02476 253890.

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BanburyCake jobs

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Get online, on-message and on time

IT'S been quite a while since forward thinking companies first recognised the potential of social media to strengthen their customer services.

Let's face it, in that time Mark Zuckerberg has gone from Harvard skater boy to cardigan-wearing dad.

Not only do online platforms offer continually evolving ways to engage with customers and clients but they also act as the perfect marketing tools for the launch of new services and products.

The reality is, with customer service expectations rising all the time, consumers want a seamless experience that moves from the shop

or factory to their Facebook timeline.

It's all the more strange, then, that some companies haven't yet seized the opportunities for boosting their brand online.

Well, that's where you come in!

With social media no longer the magical realm understood only by IT geeks and marketing gurus, there are now many customer service roles where you can use your unique, put-people-first talents online to ensure greater customer satisfaction and retention.

Put simply, knowing how social media customer service can take interactions to a higher level puts you in a better position to land new roles.

Learning the craft will strengthen your

CV and boost your interview chances.

Where to start? Begin by looking at how your favourite companies use social channels. Which ones are they choosing in order to maximise hits from their target audiences?

Investigate how they might be monitoring these channels.

These days there is a vast range of software programmes companies can use in real time to know whenever a customer says anything about their service.

Next, watch how quickly and how often a company responds to mentions, posts and tweets.

There's no point in spending time and effort creating an all-singing, all-dancing online presence, with regularly

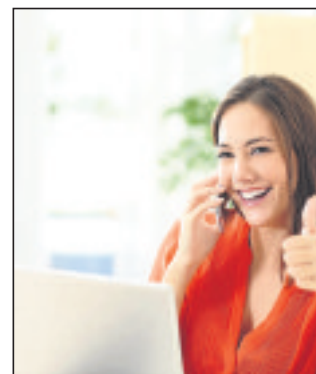
updated content, if a company then ignores feedback or is slow to reply.

It's like posting your details on an online dating site then ignoring anyone who wants to get in touch.

Customer surveys consistently show the most important thing when visiting a company's social media page, is to get a direct response to questions, followed by a follow-up with direct access to customer service reps.

They also find that the majority of customers expect a response over social media within the same day.

Responding quickly is not just about being there for customers, it's all about proactively engaging with your community whenever the opportunity arises.



NOW RECRUITING

Due to client needs and additional contracts, MTS Cleansing Services Limited one of the largest independently owned liquid waste management companies in the South, are looking to recruit extra permanent **Class 1 and Class 2 LGV entitlement holders** to work from our Abingdon Depot, Oxford as Drainage Engineers.

Duties include

- Collection and disposal of controlled waste at registered waste reception sites
- Attending emergency call out situations
- Dealing with sewer blockage emergencies.

Operating mainly in the Oxfordshire area you will be required to complete a 50 hour working week, any five days from seven. A very competitive salary is offered along with overtime, on call payments, night out premiums, life insurance and pension after a qualifying period.

Ideal candidates must

- Held their license for at least two years
- No more than 6 points on their license
- Flexible in their approach to working unsocial hours
- Previous experience and having worked on a large SST recycling units or small combination unit an advantage.

We operate an emergency call out rota which includes weekend working and unsocial hours, so applicants must be flexible in their approach to work.

If this position interests you then please visit our website at www.mtscleansing.co.uk and download an application pack from our careers page, alternatively email your CV to hr@mtscleansing.co.uk or call 01634 285843 for more details.

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Thame Workholding is the trading name of Thame Engineering Co Ltd - a well established specialist manufacturer, designer and supplier of workholding and automation solutions.

We currently have the following vacancies in our Long Crendon facility for which full training will be given

Technical Sales Advisor - £23-25,000pa depending on experience

Processing phone sales and enquiries, sales orders and quotations, dealing with delivery enquiries and special shipments.
Mon-Thurs 8.30am-5.00pm, Friday 8.30am-4.00pm

Inspector/Quality Controller - from £25,000pa depending on experience

Inspection of finished parts and first-offs, calibration of gauges, processing customer returns, management of ISO system and health and safety programme.
Mon-Thurs 7.30am-4.00pm, Friday 7.30am-3.00pm

Stores and Despatch Supervisor - from £25,000pa depending on experience

This is a hands on role with day-to-day packing of parcels, supervising finishing department personnel and processes, ensuring accurate and timely despatch of goods, goods-in.
Mon-Thurs 8.30am-5.00pm, Friday 8.30am-4.00pm

Further details can be found at www.thameworkholding.com/employment

Please send your CV and covering letter to vacancies@thameworkholding.com

Closing date for applications 30 April 2017

Call Hilary Handley on 01844 208050 if you have questions or queries



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£25,000 per annum, plus bonus and use of company vehicle.

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Women's/Men's Project Volunteer Mentor

Could you support male and female ex-offenders change their lives for the better? A national charity which works with men and women in prison and the community is seeking Volunteer Mentors in the Oxfordshire Area.

Some of the duties are:

Supporting and accompanying service users to appointments and meetings.
Meeting service users in custody and upon release.

Supporting service users with paperwork, finances and housing applications.

Being an advocate and acting as a conduit on behalf of the service users.

This opportunity is suitable for approachable and non-judgemental individuals, both Female & Male.

For an application pack and more information please contact:

Sobia Khan - Sobia.Khan@prisonadvice.org.uk (07710056585)

Simon Johnson - Simon.Johnson@prisonadvice.org.uk (07703705111)

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IN THE HOT SEAT: TOP 5 TIPS TO NAIL YOUR INTERVIEW

1. First impressions count

Always look smart, tidy and professional.

2. Do your research

Find out as much as you can about the company prior to the interview.

3. Practice makes perfect

Rehearse answers to standard interview questions in front of the mirror.

4. Make eye contact

It shows you're paying attention.
Don't forget to smile.

5. Listen carefully

Make sure you understand the question before you answer.

Not got an interview yet, don't worry,
set up job alerts at ox1jobs.com now.

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5 TIPS TO IMPROVE YOUR CV

1. Keep it between 2 and 3 pages

Any more and it looks like you're rambling.

Any less and it looks like you don't care.

2. Keep it clear and easy to read

Curb your creative juices.

Use bullet points and keep sentences short.

3. Always use a cover letter and tailor your CV

Research the company and use the job advert to ensure you stand out as the perfect candidate.

4. 'Pobody's perfect'

But there's not a single reason your CV should have grammar or spelling mistakes.

5. Tell the truth

Porky pies will only ever come back to bite you.

Or if you need a helping hand,
head to our cv services at ox1jobs.com

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For Sale

Cherwell Court

A spacious two bedroom apartment within walking distance to the town centre and train station. Master bedroom with ensuite shower room. Plenty of storage. Spacious kitchen and living area. Secure gated parking.

£185,000



New Instruction

Merisham Court

A WELL PRESENTED GROUND FLOOR ONE BEDROOM RETIREMENT APARTMENT SITUATED JUST OUTSIDE OF BANBURY TOWN CENTRE. Comprises of: entrance hall, lounge/diner, bathroom, double bedroom, kitchen, airing cupboard and allocated parking for residents.

£139,995



For Sale

Victoria Place

A one bedroom ground floor apartment with private entrance. Comprising: Entrance hall, Lounge, Bedroom, Kitchen, Bathroom. Allocated parking. Situated within walking distance to Banbury town centre and train station. Easily accessible to M40 junction 11.

£140,000



UNDER OFFER

Ivy Cottage

A new to the market spacious two bedroom cottage situated in the heart of the village of North Newington. There is a separate kitchen; good size lounge with all original features. Upstairs there are two bedrooms and a family size bathroom. Parking is on road. The property also benefits from a picturesque garden. Situated with easy access for Banbury and Bloxham.

£250,000



For Sale

Bedford Close

Martin & Co Banbury are pleased to present this excellent one bedroom house situated in a fantastic location within Banbury. This would make an ideal investment or the perfect first time home.

Asking Price Of £160,000



PRICE REDUCTION

Causeway

A surprisingly spacious 5 bedroom 3 storey Victorian town house situated within walking distance to town centre and train station. Comprising: Entrance hall, 2 reception rooms, kitchen, 5 bedrooms, shower room and family bathroom and rear garden.

£240,000



For Sale

Spencer Court

A SECOND FLOOR ONE BEDROOM RETIREMENT APARTMENT. Entrance hall, Lounge/diner, Bathroom, Kitchen, Airing cupboard. Communal laundry and all water usage. Communal gardens. Allocated parking.

£114,000



To Let

West Bar

Martin & Co are pleased to present a two bedroom mid terraced property conveniently situated within walking distance to the town centre and train station. The property comprises: kitchen; living room; bathroom; upstairs there are two bedrooms.

£745.00 pcm



To Let

Forsythia Walk

A well presented three bedroom house in the Hardwick area of Banbury, with allocated parking. Hallway leads to spacious lounge with wooden flooring overlooking the garden with. Fully fitted contemporary kitchen with wall and base units, washer dryer included and fridge freezer. Upstairs there are two good size double bedrooms and a third single bedroom.

£825 pcm



To Let

Valley Road

A large three bedroom house available soon. The property benefits from a fully fitted kitchen with washing machine; fridge freezer and cooker. Gas central heating. There is also a games room / study available. Conservatory and enclosed garden with a shed. Book your viewing now! Close to the hospital and walking distance to the town centre and train station too.

£1,150.00 pcm



To Let

Princethorpe Drive

A new to the market two bedroom house available with garden close to the town centre. Available unfurnished.

£795.00 pcm



To Let

Quarry Close

A new to the market one bedroom house set in village of Bloxham. Ideal for a professional couple or single person. Good size living space, with spacious garden. The property benefits from allocated parking and is walking distance to the shops and local amenities.

£695.00 pcm



To Let

Causeway

Martin and Co Banbury are pleased to offer this two bedroom mid terraced property, with close proximity to train station and town centre. The property comprises: kitchen, lounge, bathroom, two bedrooms. There is on road parking, and a small garden to the rear of the property. Suitable for single or professional couple.

£775.00 pcm



To Let

Sir Henry Jake Close

Martin & Co are delighted to offer this three bedroom semi detached house on Hanwell Fields with garage and garden. The property benefits from 2 reception rooms as well as larger than average bedrooms with fitted wardrobes.

£1000 pcm



34 Marshall Road

Martin & Co are pleased to offer this spacious two bedroom apartment within walking distance to the town centre and train station. The property comprises of living room and kitchen. There are two double bedrooms and a bathroom. The master bedroom has an en-suite bathroom. There is also allocated parking.

£775 pcm

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**Good Friday
14th April**

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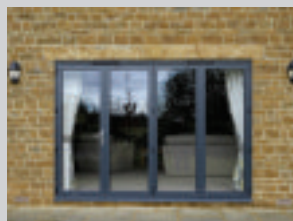
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For your free quotation or advice, please contact Banbury windows or visit their local showroom.



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